MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Israeli Raids--According to Jerusalem radio, an IDF spokesman announced that Israeli aircraft attacked Palestinian commands and bases in Lebanon on 16 July, including the regional headquarters of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP] in Ad-Damur, a regional command of the Arab Liberation Front south of Sidon and a Palestinian base south of Tyre. He also reported that three bridges over the Az-Zahrani river and two over the Litani River had been destroyed in the operation. The spokesman claimed that all of the Israeli aircraft returned safely and said that the pilots reported direct hits. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said a 16 July Israeli raid on 'Ayn al-Hulwah, a large Palestinian refugee camp, lasted 1 hour and resulted in heavy losses in property. It reported later that the Israeli Air Force had strafed the area a second time and confirmed that a number of bridges had been destroyed. Voice of Lebanon radio said 12 Israeli military aircraft took part in the raids, and it put the casualty toll at 36 dead and more than 100 wounded. It said the aircraft used incendiary and phosphorous bombs against a number of positions and fired heat balloons to avoid SAM-7 missiles, which reportedly exploded without hitting their targets.

Around noon on 17 July a formation of Israeli warplanes attacked Palestinian camps in Beirut and its suburbs amid heavy antiaircraft fire, Beirut radio reported. According to AFP, nine planes hit refugee camps on the western edge of Beirut in four low-level passes over the targets. The agency said one plane was seen plunging toward the Mediterranean leaving a trail of black smoke. Citing the IDF spokesman on air activity over Beirut around noon on 17 July, Jerusalem radio said Israeli planes attacked and destroyed the central headquarters of Fatah and the DPFLP, located within two high-rise buildings, both within the city of Beirut, and containing the operations, administration and general staff departments of those organizations. The spokesman reported that all planes returned safely to base.

Beirut radio reported that before the Israeli air raids began, Sidon had been subjected to Israeli long-range artillery bombardment and border militia artillery fire. It said 3 persons were killed and 32 others were injured in the shelling. The radio reported that Tyre was the target of Israeli artillery shelling throughout the night of 16 July and said Israeli planes resumed their activity over the south in the morning, attacking areas close to the Az-Zahrani refinery and the neighboring hills.

The Voice of Palestine reported that Israeli gunboats shelled 'Adlun, Abu al-Aswad and the Al-Qasimiyah bridge area on the night of 16 July. According to a 17 July Beirut radio report, an Israeli warship shelled the Az-Zahrani bridge from a position opposite the refinery in order to stop any movement over it. The warship later hit the refinery installations, setting fire to one of the pipelines. The report also said the shelling of Sidon has resumed. Jerusalem radio quoted a UN spokesman in southern Lebanon as saying that whatever remained of the Al-Qasimiyah bridge was destroyed the morning of 17 July during Israeli shelling of the area north of Tyre from the sea. The spokesman added that the rationing of gas and food has begun throughout southern Lebanon following the destruction of the bridges on 16 July. Only one bridge leading north remains open, he said. Jerusalem radio said a number of Katyusha rockets were fired at the western Galilee on 16 July, but it claimed that no one was hurt in the incidents. According to the Voice of Palestine, the shelling of Israeli military staging areas was in retaliation for the "bestial strafing" of Palestinian camps and densely populated villages. IDF radio reported that the rocket attacks resumed the morning of 17 July, injuring several people.

Begin Announcement--Jerusalem radio broadcast an announcement by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's office affirming that Israel will not tolerate attacks such as those that occurred on a large number of Israeli settlements on 15 July. While asserting that Israel will not direct its fire against the civilian population, the announcement said Israel will continue to attack the bases and command posts of the "terrorists" even if they are purposely located near or inside civilian settlements. It claimed that responsibility will rest with those who seek immunity for themselves while consciously endangering civilians.

Israeli Chief of Staff Interviewed--In an interview broadcast by Jerusalem television, Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said the air raids marked the first time Israel has struck at the infrastructure of the "terrorists." He explained that Israel had not done so before because the infrastructure had served others as well. He said Israel has reached the point where it must eliminate or interfere with the ability of the "terrorists" to transport forces or to change their deployment, adding that if the recent air attacks do not work, the Israeli Army is strong and sophisticated and has not yet said its last word. In an interview broadcast by Jerusalem Radio, Eytan denied a connection between the raids and the Syrian missiles stationed in Lebanon, describing the latter as a political problem. He indicated that the "terrorist" problem is being dealt with in accordance with previous practice. The radio later quoted him as saying that the IDF intends to ensure that the bridges destroyed in southern Lebanon remain closed to traffic from both directions. He also claimed that no Syrian aircraft had tried to stop the Israeli operation.

PLO Reaction--The Voice of Palestine reported that in a speech at an information seminar held by the Arab liberation movement in Beirut, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said Israel is preparing for a large-scale military operation. He asserted that Lebanon is facing a ground, sea and air attack in the south and observed that Israel has concentrated two divisions in the border enclave and in upper Galilee. Turning to U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's shuttle diplomacy, 'Arafat said the envoy's mission is designed to conceal the aggression being prepared against the Arab nation. According to the Voice of Palestine, the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, Khalil al-Wazir, said the Israelis will not be exempted from paying the price for their continued aggression. He added that the joint forces will continue their policy of confrontation and steadfastness.

Iraq

According to Paris radio, the Quai d'Orsay has confirmed that France is willing to reconstruct Iraq's nuclear reactor and is waiting only for an Iraqi request. It quoted French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson as stating that checks aimed at preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons will be increased. In a declaration reported by INA, the international conference for solidarity with Iraq called on Iraq to rebuild its nuclear reactor and stressed the importance of developing inter-Arab nuclear cooperation.

Iran

Tehran radio reported that a number of opposition group members were executed around the country for antigovernment activity. It said three Feda'iyan-e Khalq and Mojahedin-e Khalq members were executed in Behshahr, one Mojahedin-e Khalq member was executed in Astara and one Kurdish Democratic Party member was executed in Tabriz. The radio also said the Hamadan and Tabriz Islamic revolution courts sentenced a total of 7 people to death for narcotics smuggling. Tehran radio reported the arrest of 90 leftists in Kermanshahan Province, 122 in Babol and 8 in Bushehr. According to Shiraz radio, two Mojahedin-e Khalq members were also arrested in Fasa.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FATAH EXPECTS 'FURTHER ESCALATION' BY ISRAEL

NC170712 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief [of the Palestinian revolution forces] and Fatah Central Committee member, has affirmed that the Israelis will not be exempted from paying the price for their continued aggression. He added that the possibilities [for retaliation] are wide open and the joint forces will continue the policy of confrontation and steadfastness.

Referring to the enemy's shelling of several bridges, Brother Abu Jihad said that this aggression by the enemy was expected at this particular time because it is an outcome of the escalation about which deputy Zionist war minister Tzipori and the enemy's Prime Minister Menahem Begin have spoken. We expect further escalation.

Brother Abu Jihad said that these attacks are not isolated from the position adopted by the enemy's new government and its extremist bloc. They are based on U.S. imperialist support and aim at influencing the Palestinian people's will and revolution, as well as influencing the Palestinian people's struggle inside the occupied land.

Concluding his statement, Brother Abu Jihad said the enemy knows that these attacks will only increase our resolve to confront him. They will also increase the determination of our people inside the occupied homeland and in southern Lebanon to cope with these attacks and affirm to the enemy that he will not be exempted from paying the price so long as his aggression continues.

VOP REPORTS ON COUNTERATTACKS ON ISRAELIS

JN161832 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] We have just received the following from our radio correspondent in southern Lebanon:

In retaliation for treacherous Zionist attacks and its bestial strafing of our Palestinian camps and the densely populated villages of our Lebanese people, and after the enemy has sent intensive reinforcements and military vehicles from Metulla toward the occupied border strip, our heavy weapons are now shelling the assembly points of enemy troops. Our weapons are also dealing fierce blows to the following targets: (Hamis Shuma), Metulla, Misgav 'Am, Marj 'Uyun and Al-Khirbah. The shelling was still continuing up to this moment.

OMAN

DESIRE FOR OPEC, OAPEC MEMBERSHIP DENIED

EA161746 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Excerpt] A responsible source at the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals has declared that the sultanate's oil is maintaining its announced price despite persistent reports of a worldwide oil glut. In a statement to the newspaper OMAN, published today, the source categorically denied certain reports that the sultanate is facing a reduction in oil sales and that there is disagreement between Oman and its agents over the price. The source stressed that these reports are unfounded. The source also denied that the sultanate had informed OAPEC of its desire to join the organization. Press reports had indicated that the sultanate would apply to join OAPEC during its meeting to be held in Abu Dhabi on 9 December. The source pointed out that the sultanate does not currently contemplate joining this organization or OPEC.

SAUDI ARABIA

FUNDING OF IRAQI REACTOR RECONSTRUCTION JUSTIFIED

LD161358 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Arab nation, while experiencing the ferocious challenge imposed on it by its enemy, realizes that the effectiveness of confronting this challenge is in Arab solidarity, the closing of their ranks and their speaking as one. The kingdom of Saudi Arabia--its leadership and its people--realizes its role and the responsibilities and carries them out faithfully and fully. His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's announcement that the kingdom will bear the cost of rebuilding the Iraqi nuclear reactor, which was unjustifiably destroyed by Israel, not only means that the kingdom is performing its natural role in prominently standing by its sisters along the confrontation line with the enemy of the Arabs and of all mankind, but also that it has taken this role into a wider and more comprehensive arena--that of Arab honor. This is because the attack by Israel on the Iraqi nuclear [illegible] act of aggression against the will of Arab steadfastness. The Zionis[t] that the establishment of any advanced edifice on Arab land means that has reached a point where it can progress, advance and develop.

The Iraqi reactor was a symbol of Arab man's extraordinary capabilities to deal with requirements of this age's civilization. Proceeding from this idea, the Saudi leadership acted as a result of its understanding of Zionist aims and its conviction that the Arab-Israeli struggle is two-sided: The first is Israel's dependence on military force to gain more Arab land and consolidate the Zionist presence on this land, and the second is cultural as the enemy and his supporters are trying to create difficulties for Arab man to prevent him from occupying a prominent place among mankind. Israel wants to be the only landmark of civilization in the region so that it can justify to the international community its conflict with the Arabs as a conflict between man and backwardness.

For all these considerations, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz announced that His Majesty King Khalid has decreed that the kingdom should bear the cost of rebuilding the Iraqi nuclear reactor and that his majesty discussed this during his recent meeting in Paris with the French President Francois Mitterrand. This reflects the kingdom's genuine feeling of responsibility to protect Arab man from harm and the fact that it stands by all its Arab sisters--for better or for worse, as the information minister said--proud of its honorable role in serving the causes of our Arab and Islamic nation.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 400

JN161653 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jul (INA)--The Iraqi Armed Forces have killed 124 Iranians and destroyed 7 infantry positions, 1 troop carrier, 2 vehicles, 2 excavators, 9 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post. Communique No 400 issued this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command put our losses at six martyrs in all sectors.

The text of the communique is as follows: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the celebrations marking the 13th anniversary of the victorious July revolution, the victories of our valiant army over the forces of the Persian racist ignorant regime are continuing. While reviving the epics of our immortal people's victories, our armed forces are more determined to fight and more capable of fighting the Magian Persian enemy until it recognizes our full and legitimate rights over the land and waters. The outcome of our armed forces' activities yesterday evening and today is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Yesterday, one of our forward units attacked the enemy's positions and troop concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area. Following a fiery battle, the enemy sustained well over 70 killed and 2 venicles destroyed. Our forward units clashed this morning with an enemy infantry force in the same area, forcing it to flee after leaving behind 28 dead.
B. One observation post destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
C. Seven killed and two infantry positions destroyed in the Sumar area.
D. Five killed and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Shush area.
E. Four killed and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
F. One excavator destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
G. Using various types of arms, our forward units pounded enemy positions and concentrations in the Abadan area, killing 10 and destroying 5 infantry positions, 1 armored troop carrier, 1 excavator and 7 stockpiles of hardware.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 124 killed and 7 infantry positions, 1 troop carrier, 2 vehicles, 2 excavators, 9 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Six martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle and one gun damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 July 1981

CULTURAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED IN MOSCOW

JN161033 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Moscow, 16 Jul (INA)--Iraq and the Soviet Union signed here today a protocol for cultural cooperation for the coming 2 years. The protocol was signed on the Iraqi side by Iraqi Ambassador to the Soviet Union 'Abd ar-Rahman Ahmad ad-Duri and on the Soviet side by the deputy foreign minister for agreements affairs. The protocol stipulates cultural exchange between the two countries in the fields of higher and vocational education, education, culture, arts, information and youth. The protocol also includes the exchange of experts in the fields of library science, crafts, folkloric industries, theatrical achieves and the administration of archives. The program was signed following negotiations held by an Iraqi cultural delegation which arrived in Moscow on 10 July under the director of cultural relations in the Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministry.

AL-WAZZAN SPEAKS ON ISRAELI ATTACKS, ARAB ATTITUDE

NC162137 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Jul 81

[16 July speech by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at fast-breaking banquet given by the Popular Committee, An-Nabatiyah branch, at the Merryland Hotel--recorded]

[Excerpt] I stand among you here, but my mind turns to that area which receives your attention and which also receives the attention of our enemy, in a different way. Our enemy kills there, destroys and wreaks havoc, ruin and terror while we in the Arab world are still playing, not comprehending all the facts, one state calling itself a support state and another calling itself a confrontation state. The enemy confronts us alone and we just look on, and we in Lebanon just consider whether to submit a complaint or a protest. [applause]

Yesterday, when the raids were pouring fire on our land, I was asked: What do you intend to do? I said: Force is the first thing that we think about. Do we have it? If not, what position can we take other than that of the weak, a position of complaining at UN rostrums, which have indeed become weeping rostrums. We are tired of complaining and of weeping. I say this from a position of responsibility. It makes no difference to an honest man whether he is in a position of responsibility or not, because the national responsibility is one and the same, in the government or outside it. [applause]

Despite all this, you have demonstrated firm resolve. While hands destroy there, other hands build here. During a visit with me, one ambassador said: I am surprised at these people. I have visited An-Nabatiyah and I saw several buildings destroyed by bombs. What is really strange is that I saw new buildings going up in more than one place. What are you Lebanese people made of? I said: We are made of steel. We are of a rare caliber. We do not submit to faits accomplis. We do not surrender to any enemy. Our will shall remain gigantic and will teach the world that we are indeed giants, just as we taught it war in the past and as we teach it a lot these days.

We have given to the Arabs generously in all their struggles. I remember from my young days that we are always the pioneers of the struggle for every Arab cause. What about them today, just looking at us, not realizing that what is happening here in Lebanon is bound to reflect on them. Are they not worried? Are they afraid? Have they not realized yet that there is no longer such a thing as a confrontation state and a support state, now that the enemy's air force has struck the nuclear reactor there in Iraq? The enemy does not distinguish between one country and another. He chases us in one place after another, one target after another, to destroy our will before destroying our buildings. Will builds, so when he destroys the will he destroys the idea of construction. The enemy imagines that this will make us surrender and give him everything he wants. No, brothers, this is not so. You set the example in what you are doing. You set the example there, in that steadfast, true, honorable land of struggle for every grain of this homeland. You set an example as you build in an area which has stood fast not for itself only but also for all Lebanon and all the Arabs.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES COMMITTEES MEET ON SITUATION

NC161810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies Foreign, Defense, Security, Administration and Justice Committees held a joint meeting today to discuss the dangers inherent in the Israeli stand and the efforts Lebanon has made and is making at the Arab and international levels to implement the resolutions that have been adopted.

The meeting was chaired by Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and was attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, in his capacity as the interior minister and acting foreign minister, and Defense Minister Joseph Skaf. After the meeting, that lasted from 1100 until 1600, Al-As'ad, in reply to newsmen's questions, said:

[Begin recording] The conferees have reached an agreement and the information director will announce it to you now. It remains to be said that the committees that speak for the Chamber of Deputies in general have agreed not only on the diagnosis but also the method of tackling the crisis and finding radical solutions. In my view, this embodies a sound popular unity and the cohesion of all the Lebanese people within the framework of Lebanon's unity and the aspirations of all Lebanese factions. [end recording]

Prime Minister al-Wazzan, in answer to newsmen's questions, said:

[Begin recording] I was satisfied with the objective atmosphere of the discussions, which I think faced up to the level of this stage. Thus, I emerged from the meeting satisfied and with a useful recommendation.

[Question] The Chamber of Deputies is blaming the government because the deputies were not briefed on the current moves by the government. What is your answer to this?

[Answer] The blame is out of place. This is what I explained to the deputies, and I believe that they are convinced of my views.

[Question] You have not made attempts to open the museum road as you did to open the Sodeco-Primo road, although the continuation of legislative work is more important.

[Answer] We sought to open this road before opening the Sodeco road to enable the Chamber of Deputies to perform its tasks. You realize the existing difficulties on opening this road. As for opening the Sodeco-At-Tibiyyah road, I remind you of what I said about a week ago when I said that the current arrangements make up three stages: the stage of opening the road from the Sodeco to At-Tibiyyah and the stage of opening the road from At-Tibiyyah to At-Tayyunah. There are three stages. The Sodeco road, the Sodeco-At-Tibiyyah and At-Tibiyyah. We are seeking to carry out this plan by stages. Despite this, we notice that the evil hands do not want the people to have reassurance or stability. These evil hands do not want the roads in all areas to be opened. I do not need to name them becuase the people now know each of them. [end recording]

After that, the director general of information affairs in the Chamber of Deputies read the recommendations approved by the conferees. These are:

1. Radical solutions to the Lebanese crisis must be reached on the security and political levels within the framework of a comprehensive security plan stemming from unified political visualization based on the unity of fate. This dictates that a unified strategy must be charted in the face of the enemy plans, in order to consecrate and ensure national concurrence among the various Lebanese factions.

2. Since the successive developments and events are giving ample evidence that the enemy plan is aimed at holding on to its positions and gains in the south, in preparation for implementing all the chains of the plot, at the expense of Lebanon and the Arabs--by expanding the crisis throughout Lebanon and on the Arab level--the Chamber of Deputies, within the framework of its ad hoc committees, asks the government to act, together with the conferees in the Bayt ad-Din conference slated for 25 July, to draw up a joint Lebanese-Arab plan to regain southern Lebanon. This would wrest the initiative from Israel, which is manipulating the Lebanese crisis, and foil its conspiratorial scheme against Lebanon and the Arabs.

URGENT UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING REQUESTED

NC170604 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Lebanon has asked for an urgent UN Security Council meeting to discuss the situation resulting from the large-scale Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon yesterday. These aggressions have caused scores of casualties, heavy material damage and the destruction of a number of bridges.

VOL REPORTS 16 JUL ISRAELI RAIDS ON BEIRUT, SIDON

NC161601 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Israeli aircraft are now carrying out violent bombardment of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian camp near Sidon. It has been noted that the Israeli planes are using huge bombs. Our correspondent says that fires and flames are rising high in the area. He says the intensity and violence of the bombardment are unprecedented in the area.

A 12-plane Israeli squadron bombed Palestinian positions in Ad-Damur, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, Darb as-Sim, An-Nabatiyah and (Al-Wadi al-Akhbar) at 1615 today [1415 GMT]. Three formations of Israeli Phantoms strafed Palestinian positions in the area. The planes concentrated in particular on the positions of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

In the meantime another squadron was bombing the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. The bombardment concentrated on the southern entrance of the camp where the popular struggle front has a base.

Earlier, Israeli aircraft raided the areas of 'Arab Salim, (Al-Wadi al-Akhbar), (Al-'Aqibiyah heights) and (Al-Musaylih) in the areas of Az-Zahrani, 'Abd an-Nasir bridge, and (Ilya), near Hasbayya. Our correspondents reported that the Israeli aircraft released heat balloons to avoid SAM-7 missiles, which were seen exploding in the air in the areas of Ad-Damur and Sidon without hitting their targets.

Sirens were sounded in Palestinian camps in Beirut and other areas as soon as the Israeli raids began. Our correspondents say that fires broke out in the raided areas but that losses and casualties are still unknown because the air raids have continued after they stopped from 1640 until 1705 [1505 GMT].

SYRIAN FACTION, LEBANESE ARMY CLASH IN BEIRUT

NC161531 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1518 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] We have just received that clashes are now taking place in Al-Manarah area, the American University of Beirut, the Hubaysh police post and the military bath between the Lebanese Army and the Red Knights, who belong to Rif'at al-Asad [brother of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad]. Most of the roads in the area have been closed and sounds of explosions and rockets are being heard in the distance.

HADDAD COMMENTS ON SYRIANS, CURRENT SITUATION

NC170923 Marj 'Uyun Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Major Haddad has commented on some current topics as follows:

1. The rulers of the Syrian 'Alawite regime are continuing their attack on U.S. envoy Philip Habib and are publicly heaping accusations on him and calling him dirty names.

At the same time, they are secretly begging Saudi Arabia and him personally to find them a face-saving solution with Israel that will retain some advantages for them in Lebanon. Meanwhile, the Syrian rulers are totally ready to let the extermination of terrorists happen.

If this is not true, let the 'Alawite regime turn allegations into deeds and let it dare to not receive Philip Habib and let it dare to support the terrorists on the ground and in the air.

2. After every Israeli operation against the terrorists, we hear about the death of Libyans. We wonder if there remain among the terrorists in southern Lebanon some Palestinians, or do they now all consist of Libyans and mercenaries?

3. Now that the terrorists in southern Lebanon have been attacked and weakened, we ask all the inhabitants of the occupied south to sieze the opportunity and work to liberate their south from the remnants of the occupying aliens.

4. The Lebanese newspapers have recently published pictures showing the graduation of new fighters and of military parades, staged by new armies formed in Beirut and various other places in occupied Lebanon. We ask His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis and his distinguished government whether they have given official and legal permits for the graduation of these military men, who are trained and graduate in areas under the authority of the legitimate Syrian forces [as heard].

5. We tell Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and other officials in Lebanon that we have repeatedly asked you to pay the military men and inhabitants of free Lebanon their due, as otherwise we will be obliged to harm Sidon and other areas.

Regrettably, it seems that you pay no attention to the safety of the citizens. Your only concern is how to win the sympathy of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Abu al-Hawl. Therefore, we in turn apologize to all the inhabitants of the occupied south, particularly the inhabitants of Sidon, for what has befallen them. We find ourselves compelled to continue to resort to these measures until we obtain our legitimate rights on a par with other Lebanese areas.

TISHRIN CONDEMNS U.S. STRATEGY IN MIDEAST

JN170814 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Region and the Lessons Gained From Vietnam" TISHRIN says: The Israeli rulers' declared threat to launch aggression and their criminal military acts against the Palestinian people and Lebanon are pushing the situation in the Middle East to a crisis that might bring it to the brink of war with unforeseeable results. Those in Washington who dream of reversing the wheel of progress are mistaken if they believe that hiding behind Israel's policy of aggression and behind the war machine they placed in the Israeli rulers' hands will enable them to succeed in winning both sides, the moderate Arabs and Israel; in embroiling Arab forces that remain committed to the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and to regaining the usurped Arab rights in peripheral differences and disputes; and in freezing their forces and attention on Arab problems such as the Lebanese problem, thus placing them under the constant Israeli threat of aggression.

TISHRIN says: The U.S. game has become completely exposed in the Arab arena. The connection between the U.S. efforts and objectives in the region and the hostile Israeli trends, statements and acts has become so evident that no one in the Arab arena, including those who used to be considered friends of the United States, can any longer find a single word to defend the policy of the United States, its objectives and its vile acts. The United States perhaps has succeeded in cooperation with Israel in transforming the situation in Lebanon into a topic of preoccupation for Syria and the Arabs. This preoccupation, however, will harm the U.S. objectives and interests, will not enable it to achieve its objectives and will not influence Syria's stand of firm opposition to the U.S. strategy of hostility to the Arab liberation movement.

TISHRIN stresses that Syria has been categorical in reaffirming that it is ready to confront any Israeli-U.S. adventure with all the necessary courage and firmness and that it will not hesitate to adopt any measures it deems necessary for repulsing the aggression and defending the Arab nation's national interests including measures which anger the United States.

It should be obvious to the U.S. rulers that Syria, which realizes the purpose of the suspect moves in Lebanon and the U.S. and Israeli demands, cannot remain a bystander in the face of the U.S. attempt to impose control over the region and the U.S.-Israeli settlement. The United States has tried every method with Syria and has failed. The new attempt will fare no better. The more the United States escalates its conspiracies and pressures, the more its positions, interests and relations in the region will be harmed. Those who gamble on obtaining everything expose themselves to losing everything too.

TISHRIN concludes: Though the time element removes Reagan's administration from the U.S. experiment in Vietnam, the Washington rulers would find it useful to review the details of the foolish acts, illusions and crimes the United States committed there. The lessons we of the Arab liberation movement have learned from that experiment daily increase our confidence in victory.

Under the headline "Violence, Diplomacy and the Counterstand" TISHRIN also says: The current serious escalation in the region resulting from the Israeli aggressions compels one to ask himself more than one question. The connection between the escalation of the Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon and the visits of U.S. officials and Washington's envoys is now quite evident and proves that this is a preplanned policy.

Israel waged the fiercest aggressions against southern Lebanon while Haig was visiting the region and stressing that his country's policy will be implemented by force. Israel also waged its fiercest aggressions during Habib's presence in the region and has resumed its barbaric raids on the south with Habib's arrival in the region on his third tour.

TISHRIN wonders: Doesn't all this mean something? Does it not mean that Israel's aggressions which take place while U.S. officials are visiting the region are approved by the United States, even that they take place with U.S. support? Thus, does this not mean that it is a premeditated U.S. aggression, particularly in that it takes place with sophisticated U.S. weapons? If this matter is very well known by the Arabs, and Syria in particular, the question that arises is why all this takes place and why Israel carries out its aggressions while Washington says that it is seeking peaceful solutions to the problems and sends its envoys to achieve so-called peaceful solutions.

In replying to these questions, TISHRIN says: The U.S. objective behind pushing Israel to carry out aggressions against the Arab stems from the U.S. policy itself. There is a U.S. strategy which everyone has become aware of and which they are trying to impose on the region; there also exists broad Arab rejection of this strategy. The U.S. administration believes that increased Israeli aggressions will engender Arab despair forcing the Arabs to give in to U.S. demands or at least to show some flexibility and docility as a prelude to capitulation. More precisely, Washington wants Syria, since it is the first Arab trench of confrontation, to gradually relinquish its pan-Arab stands and to join Camp David or anything that is similar to the Camp David accords in form and content. This is the U.S. objective behind the use of violence and diplomacy. The Reagan administration is using the card of the Israeli military aggressions to create pressures and impose defeat. It uses the card of diplomacy for blackmail and for both covert and overt threats. The two cards are complementary.

TISHRIN concludes: The problem, however, is that Washington's rulers have failed to understand the equation. The problem does not consist of violence, diplomacy and threats but of pan-Arab stands based on the interests, rights and aspirations of a people. It is this counterstand of hostility to Washington's desires that governs the nature of the struggle in the region and that is steadfast now and will remain so in the future.

JOINT DECLARATION MARKS AL-AHMAR'S VISIT TO CSSR

For the text of a joint declaration issued by the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party on the occasion of the 29 June-6 July visit to the CSSR by a Ba'th Party delegation led by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, and published by Prague's RUDE PRAVO on 6 July, see page D 5 of the Czechoslovakia section of the 15 July Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

BEGIN'S OFFICE ANNOUNCES POLICY ON ATTACKS 17 JUL

TA171017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1002 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] The following announcement has been issued by the prime minister's office: Throughout all the years of our essentially defensive actions against the terrorist bases in Lebanon the various branches of the IDF have taken care not to hit the civilian population. The IDF's fire had only been directed against the military targets of the terrorists. The terrorist organizations acted in exactly the opposite way. They directed all their attacks--whether by the infiltration of terrorist squads or by firing Katyusha rockets or artillery--against the civilian population of Israel.

On Wednesday the terrorist organization opened a massive attack against the civilian population in a large number of Israeli settlements. Three of our civilians were murdered and 25 were injured. There is no doubt that the terrorists intended to murder dozens of the Israeli citizens. Under no condition will we tolerate this kind of attacks and their consequences. This time, too, we will not aim the fire against the civilian population on purpose. However, we will continue to attack bases and command posts of the terrorists even if they are purposely located near or inside concentrations of [civilian] population. Responsibility will lay with those who are seeking immunity for themselves while consciously endangering civilians. We will not let up on the enemy until we put an end to its bloody frenzy and peace prevails between Israel and Lebanon.

PLANES SAID TO DESTROY FATAH'S BEIRUT HEADQUARTERS

TA171003 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] The IDF spokesman reports that today at around noon the Israeli Air Force planes attacked and destroyed the central headquarters of the Fatah organization and the central headquarters of the Democratic Front, both within the city of Beirut. All our planes returned safely to their bases. Our pilots reported accurate hits on the predetermined targets.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1008 GMT on 17 July adds: "The headquarters destroyed were siutated inside two high-rise buildings, of seven stories each. The headquarters destroyed were the central headquarters which included all the departments of operations, administration and general staff of the terrorist organizations."]

Tzipori Statement

TA171217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1159 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Now let us hear remarks made by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori a few minutes ago. He said that after the terrorists had not read the IDF's warning it was decided to handle the terrorists' problem from the top [of the terrorists' commands].

[Begin recording] There was a most peculiar situation in Lebanon. Commands of terrorists are situated in the capital of Lebanon, which is an independent country, so to speak, and from there they operate their branches both regarding Israel and other countries in the world and every time they succeed in murdering an innocent civilian or committing a terrorist act the spokesmen of these commands in the Lebanese capital shoulder responsibility for the murder and the terrorist act.

This is an intolerable situation and we decided, after all the warnings we gave them--serious signals as far as that goes--to handle matters from the head and the head is situated in Beirut. Today we indeed attacked commands of two famous murderers' organizations, one of Nayif Hawatimah, a base murderer, and the second the Fatah command.

We decided we will handle them wherever they are on this subject until they decide to change their ways. In any event, the Israeli Government will take care that the Israeli people are protected. We will not allow firing--not on hospitals, nor on citizens' houses--and casualties among children and women. What happened today is a horrendous scandal: they fired on a hospital with a maternity ward and injured several women there. Therefore, this is one of our reactions. We hope they received the message and quiet will be restored. Otherwise the Israeli Government will have to decide on additional steps. [end recording]

16 JUL AIR FORCE OPERATION CALLED POLICY CHANGE

Operation Details

TA161705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] The IDF spokesman a few minutes ago released details on the air force operation in Lebanon this afternoon. The spokesman reported that the aircraft had attacked and destroyed terrorist commands and bases, among them a regional headquarters of the Arab liberation front south of Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front in Ad-Damur, a regional command of the Arab liberation front south of Sidon and a base from which the terrorists set out on operations and where training was also conducted south of Tyre. Three bridges over the Az-Zahrani River were also destroyed, as were two bridges over the Litani River. These bridges served as transport axes and reinforcements of terrorist forces in the south were carried out over them, as well as the transfer of terrorist arms and materiel, including Katyusha-carrying vehicles.

The IDF spokesman announced that all our aircraft returned safely and that the pilots reported direct hits.

Rationing Results

TA171027 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] This morning the UN spokesman in southern Lebanon reports that following the destruction of the bridges by Israel yesterday, rationing of gas and food began throughout southern Lebanon. The spokesman said that there were difficult problems of transportation in the south because people were trying to flee from the south to the north. In fact, only one bridge leading north remains open. The UN spokesman added that Israeli ships this morning shelled the area north of Tyre from the sea. According to him, whatever remained of the Al-Qasimiyah bridge which was hit yesterday by the Israeli Air Force was destroyed.

Policy Change

TA170741 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Excerpts] Until the Israeli Air Force's operation yesterday, the IDF had refrained from hitting the infrastructure that also renders services to the civilian population in Lebanon. The attack on the bridges is something of a deviation from this policy and now routes through which the terrorists move heavy weapons and missiles to the south have also been hit. Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan has said that we will not tolerate a situation whereby life is difficult on our side of the border whereas they conduct normal life on their side. Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, reports on the air force operation and its significance.

The effect of the blow dealt yesterday to the terrorists by the air force will be felt for a long time. Five bridges on the Litani and Az-Zahrani Rivers, including the Habbush, 'Arab Salim and the Al-Qasimiyah bridges were destroyed. Only one bridge remained open on the Litani River and this bridge is controlled by the United Nations.

In a news conference with military correspondents last night, the chief of staff and the chief of the intelligence branch, Major General Sagi, referred to the terrorists' procurement. He said that large quantities of arms flow to the terrorists. Lieutenant General Eytan said the equipment received by the terrorists include 130-mm cannons--from which shells were fired at Nahariyya--sophisticated Katyushas, 57-mm cannons which are adjusted by radar and they may have also received T-54 and T-55 tanks.

As for the Syrian missiles stationed in the Al-Biqa' valley, the chief of staff said: The targets which were hit yesterday were located outside the range of those missiles. However, the missiles constitute a problem. Had there not been missiles, the chief of staff said, more Syrian planes would have been downed in dogfights. Incidentally, the chief of staff disclosed that Syrian planes did not disrupt yesterday's operation. To sum up [Israel's policy]: There is a change in the policy of action against the terrorists, hitting the transportation infrastructure and making life unbearable for the terrorists as well as for the civilian population.

Tzipori Remarks

TA161925 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori answers questions by the press in front of the prime minister's office in Jerusalem on 16 July--videotaped]

[Text] [Tzipori] The question can be presented as one likes. As for the question on what would have happened had the air force not attacked, in our estimation, had the air force not attacked, the scope of the activities would have been several times larger than it is today. There is no doubt that the air force operations prevent and disrupt [terrorist activity]. We have no way of providing an absolute answer [to the terrorist activity], but we are providing the maximum replies, and we will have to give even better answers, which we will look into regarding what ways and what means to use.

[Question] This is my next question. Is there no room to consider steps....

[Answer, interrupting] You do not expect me to give you an answer on the next question.

[Question] Mr Tzipori, will we continue the policy of attacking the terrorists in southern Lebanon?

[Answer] As long as there is even one living terrorist in the world, the State of Israel will attack him.

Eytan Comments

TA161726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1715 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Interview of Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on 16 July, place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Lieutenant General Eytan, against what targets did the air force operate today?

[Answer] Today we acted against commands of terrorists, aiming at hitting their infrastructure. The purpose of the operation was to make movement and accumulation of power more difficult for them.

In light of their energetic preparation in Lebanon in recent times--assembling a lot of heavy arms of all sorts, entrenching and fortifying as well as establishing new camps and organizing their commands--in my estimation we have reached a state where had we not taken swift action to stop this process, we would have faced a serious problem in the future. This was the purpose of today's operation: to hit commands and the infrastructure. I think we have no other choice if we are determined not to allow the terrorists to consolidate power and become a factor that would be more than just a danger of terrorism to the northern border area, but which would constitute a real danger on a part of the eastern front.

[Question] Lieutenant General Eytan, what have you learned from the reports on the results of the attack?

[Answer] The reports on the results of the attack are routine. The pilots have reported direct hits on all the set targets. All the goals that had been selected were pertinent ones, thanks to excellent intelligence information. We will certainly learn the minute details tonight and tomorrow.

[Question] Despite the air force attacks on terrorist targets, in the last few days the terrorists have stepped up their firing on the northern settlements, and they also scored hits in some places. In light of all this, could one say that the air force bombings really obtain the desired goals?

[Answer] One could analyze this in two fashions: One, what would have happened had we not, and two, what is the direct outcome? This is the second way of analyzing. Had we not hit the terrorists constantly, taking the initiative, their capability would have been much greater. So far, we have refrained from hitting their infrastructure, only addressing ourselves to terrorist military targets and, in effect, allowing them to move freely throughout Lebanon. They reacted by firing Katyushas, and they can do so because this means of warfare can be secretly brought within firing range, fired and then withdrawn. Only in rare cases would we be able to capture their weapons or hit them either before or during an operation. A few days ago we found a Katyusha launcher on a car, and we hit if from the air. That vehicle did not fire, but another might. When we hit the infrastructure, making movement more difficult for them, their capability is harmed. I am not saying that this is a final and unequivocal solution. We must persevere, continue to collect information through all the means at our disposal and make it more difficult for them to react in this fashion. If this continues, we still have many unutilized operational methods.

[Question] This is the place to ask the question if there is no room here, in view of the escalation [in terrorist activity], to reconsider measures that could conceivably provide a more fundamental answer to the problem of the terrorists on the Arnun Plateau?

[Answer] There is room to reconsider, and we have been doing so.

[Question] Lieutenant General Eytan, my final, brief question: To sum up, the missile problem has not yet been resolved, and it appears as though a stalemate has occurred on this issue. Does this mean that it is possible to live with the missiles on the Syrian-Lebanese border or inside Lebanon?

[Answer] First of all, there is no connection between our operations against the terrorists and the missiles. The missiles are now a political problem, one which has been getting political treatment and handling, whereas the issue of the terrorists is under our care [and is being dealt with] in these ways we have used for some time now.

The U.S. envoy [Philip Habib] is in the Middle East and moves from one capital to another, looking into things, proposing and trying to mediate and find a solution. I hope he will succeed. This does not mean that the State of Israel is not taking action against the missiles or that it has reconciled itself to their presence. As the prime minister said a few days ago, Philip Habib is here and still has not given up on the possibility of solving this problem in the way he has been trying to solve it. However, there is no link between this problem and our war against the terrorists.

[Question] Thank you, Lieutenant General Eytan.

EYTAN INTERVIEWED ON ANTITERRORIST POLICY

TA191944 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Interview of Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan by military correspondent Dan Semama at Eytan's office on 16 July--videotaped]

[Text] [Question] [Words indistinct] of the terrorists a change in our manner of attacking in Lebanon and our policy regarding it, since so far we have attacked the terrorists' military concentrations?

[Answer] This is not a change in the policy. The policy is to attack the terrorists anywhere we either discover them or know of their presence and this policy continues. This objective, or these objectives--termed infrastructure--have so far not been hit by us because it has served others as well, not only terrorists. However, the situation has come to this, that we must prevent the terrorists or interfere with their freely transferring forces and changing their preparedness. If others suffer from this, they can exert pressure on the terrorists to stop operating against us.

[Question] Lieutenant General Eytan, yesterday the terrorists operated against us and there was a very serious shelling along the entire front. Does yesterday's shelling signify a strengthening of the terrorists, a success in their organizing? Does it mean that they will be a kind of army that can coordinate activity simultaneously, at once, in so many places?

[Answer] To fire at one instant along the entire front does not require them to do any extraordinary organizing. They can station either Katyusha launchers or artillery from the sea to Har Dov and fire two shells toward any place at the same time. Yet one must understand that what has happened with the terrorists recently is military strengthening by heavy arms and modern heavy arms in large quantities and in an unceasing flow. The expression given to this strengthening was shown yesterday. If we do not take action against this strengthening, we may next time face twice as much means of warfare, along with the danger that will entail. This is what took place with the terrorists recently. This inflow reaches them both directly from the eastern bloc and from Libya: artillery, Katyusha launchers, modern antiaircraft weapons, tanks and other pieces of equipment, auxiliary equipment and means that make it possible to use all they receive in an efficient manner. All these are our targets.

[Question] Mr Chief of Staff, you have said that we have collected information. Residents of the north have been talking about yesterday's incident as a blunder. Do you share this evaluation?

[Answer] No. What kind of blunder?

[Question] That the terrorists were able to act the way they did yesterday against so many targets inside Israel?

[Answer] This is not the first time the terrorists have activated both Katyushas and artillery all along the front in such quantities. There were much worse cases in the past.

Our memory is, at times, selective and sometimes short. Twice Katyusha fire was directed from the Jordanian border, in the last 6 months. By chance these Katyushas did not land in either Ashdot Ya'aqov or Bet She'an. But this was by chance. We could not, nor am I sure we could in the future, prevent such a volley from reaching such a sensitive target as Bet She'an. Now, supposing the Katyushas had landed in the town, then people would have said to us: This is a blunder; how could you not prevent Katyushas from Jordan from landing inside an urban area without having issued a warning, without [ordering people down to] the shelters, without sounding the siren and such. The nature of these arms is such that they can be operated in a way that we will not know about it, only after the explosive has exploded on the ground. Only then will we know that a Katyusha rocket has been fired from someplace, whereas the launching vehicle is no longer there. Therefore, in the latest attacks carried out in the last week, we attacked armament bases, an arsenal where missiles had been stored, and today we attacked commands. Two days ago we hit bases. Now we have entered a stage where we hit their maneuverability and this should have an impact. If it does not, we are a big, sophisticated and strong army and we have not said our final word in this war.

KATYUSHA ATTACKS IN NORTH 16, 17 JUL REPORTED

16 Jul Attacks

TA161904 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Several Katyusha rockets were directed from Lebanon at the Galilee, reports our correspondent Me'ir Einstein. Earlier, at 2000 [1800 GMT] a volley of Katyushas was also directed at the Galilee. No one was hit and no damage was caused. Even earlier, at 1830 [1630 GMT], several Katyusha rockets were fired at the western Galilee. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. Our correspondents have reported that the inhabitants of the area are in the shelters.

[Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew at 1845 GMT on 16 July had reported that following shelling of the western Galilee around 1900, 1700 GMT, "fire was directed back at the source" of the attack.]

17 Jul Attacks

TA170833 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0828 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Another salvo of Katyusha rockets was fired in the north of Israel. The terrorists in southern Lebanon have in the last hour shelled the Galilee panhandle with Katyusha rockets. This is reported by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz. This has been the second round of shelling this morning, following the first salvo of rockets which was fired at 0830 [0630 GMT] at the area of Qiryat Shemona. Three people sustained light injuries as a result of this fire. There have also been exchanges of fire between the terrorists and Major Haddad's troops in the last hour. This is the most updated report which arrived in the newsroom in the last few minutes.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1100 GMT on 17 July reports the day's third shelling of the western Galilee since 1030, 0830 GMT. It had reported at 1006 GMT that five people had been slightly injured in the Katyusha fire on Nahariyya.]

Ministerial Meeting Prompted

TA161959 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] A ministerial consultation attended by the prime minister was held in Jerusalem today following the Katyusha fire yesterday. As a result the prime minister did not open the coalition negotiation with the National Religion Party faction, originally scheduled for today. Political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reported that the coalition negotiation has been postponed and will begin Sunday. Therefore, the regular Cabinet session will not be held on that day.

DEPLOYMENT OF 'TERRORISTS' IN LEBANON EXAMINED

TA171148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1125 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] We will now examine the deployment of the terrorists in Lebanon. In total, there are 12,000-15,000 terrorists in Lebanon who are members of various organizations. The bulk of the terrorists' military force is concentrated in various areas in the southern region, mainly in the area between the Az-Zahrani and Litani Rivers. Our correspondent on Arab affairs, Aharon Barne'a, reports on the deployment of the terrorists in Lebanon:

Some 12,000 to 15,000 terrorists are organized in Lebanon within regular and semiregular units. In addition, the terrorists have militia-like frameworks mainly in the refugee camps, including in the Beirut area. The latter add up to several thousand people who have undergone basic military training.

After the Litani operation, the terrorist organizations began to reorganize and strengthen their military might in order to restore their dominant status, mainly in southern Lebanon. Since the Litani operation the terrorists have received massive military assistance, including tanks, armored vehicles, artillery and antitank weapons. The terrorists again broadened their control over the civilian population in the south. They infiltrated the areas controlled by UNIFIL, acted against the Christians and the settlements in northern Israel and entrenched their deployment along the front line through an infrastructure of strongholds which was set up during the last year. In the wake of recent events in Lebanon and as a result of their fear about a large-scale military operation against them, the terrorist organizations reinforced their positions especially in southern Lebanon, along the confrontation line with our forces and the Christian forces. The terrorists are deployed in southern Lebanon as follows: some 1,000 terrorists in the area where UNIFIL is deployed; some 1,000 terrorists in the Fatahland area; some 1,500 in the Tyre area; some 600 to 700 terrorists in the An-Nabatiyah area; some 500 terrorists in the Al-'Ayshiyan and Ar-Rayhan areas; and in the coastal area, in the region between the Litani and Az-Zahrani Rivers, there are about 700 terrorists.

Within the area controlled by UNIFIL, the terrorists are concentrated in some 25 positions, off-limits to UN personnel. The main concentration is in the central region, in the triangle between Jwayya, Qana and Sayr Mimas. Each position is manned by some 25 to 30 terrorists. They have Landrovers and 82-mm mortars at their disposal. In southern Lebanon there are many central bases, arsenals--some 100 artillery barrels of various sorts with which they fire at the Christian enclave and the Galilee settlements. The terrorists currently have various kinds of cannons, including 57-mm cannons with a range of 8.5 km as well as 155-mm cannons with a range of almost 18 km. They also have a Soviet-made 130-mm cannon with a range of 27 km as well as Soviet and North Korean Katyusha-launchers of various calibers, all of them mobile.

This entire infrastructure is defended by an antiaircraft deployment which includes weapons of various calibers, shoulder-launched SAM-7 and Star missiles. This organization created an infrastructure of terrorists in the area between the Litani and Az-Zahrani Rivers. In the Arab summit meeting in Tunis in 1967 Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis demanded that the terrorists withdraw from southern Lebanon and freeze their activities in this area. However, the resolutions of the summit meeting in fact allowed the terrorists to continue their stay in Lebanon and carry out terrorist acts at will. In light of this situation, one can understand the unambiguous opposition of the inhabitants of the Christian enclave to any attempt of the Lebanese Army or the UNIFIL forces to take over the area and, in fact, disarm the Christians.

Since the beginning of 1980 the terrorists have reinforced their troops in southern Lebanon. This reinforcement mainly found its expression in the arrival of the ('Ayn Jalud) battalion of the Palestinian Liberation Army, which is subject to the PLO's control, to replace the Syrian force in the area between (?the south of) Ad-Damur and the Az-Zahrani River. The terrorists also received T-34 tanks.

Consequently, the terrorists consolidated a regular military deployment similar to that of a regular army, that is, a headquarters, a supreme headquarters and heavy weapons.

AL-ASAD'S BROTHER FORMS MERCENARY UNIT IN BEIRUT

TA170754 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Jul 81 p 1

[By Arab affairs correspondent]

[Text] Rif'at al-Asad, the Syrian president's brother and the strongman in charge of the special units safeguarding the regime called the "defense battalions," has established a similar group of mercenary hooligans in Lebanon. Arab sources have noted that this was not brought to the attention of the president, and it is assumed that the strong brother was taking steps in domestic affairs in Syria without the knowledge of his brother, the president.

The new organization is called "the Democratic Arab Party" and its members wear orange uniforms. They are armed with modern equipment.

The members of the organization receive orders directly from Rif'at al-Asad and they were first seen in the western Muslim quarters of Beirut two nights ago. The members of that organization held a military parade in west Beirut, displaying their prowess.

The night before last the members of the organization forcefully overtook the (An-Nahdah) Club in the western part of the Lebanese capital, turning it into the organization's military command. The first military camp of the orange-uniformed people was established at the same time in the plaza between the sports club and the swimming pool for military personnel in Beirut. Yesterday afternoon, the members of the organization encircled the area and set up an encampment in the plaza.

The members of the organization also carried out their first operation, which failed. They tried to assassinate Dr Muhammad 'Ali as-Sid, the head of the surgical department in the Zahlah (al-Ma'alqah) Hospital. The attempt failed, the doctor escaped unscathed, but his car, attacked by members of the organization in an ambush, was heavily damaged.

OAU'S EDEM KODJO DENIES NIGERIAN CHARGES

AB161900 Paris AFP in French 1713 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Excerpts] Lagos, 16 Jul (AFP)--Mr Edem Kodjo of Togo, the OAU secretary general, denied in Lagos on Wednesday that he was in any way responsible for the omission of the issue of the Nigeria-Cameroon border conflict from the agenda of the recent OAU summit in Nairobi.

Shortly before leaving Lagos for Yaounde within the framework of the shuttle that he has begun between the two capitals in an attempt to settle the dispute, the secretary general of the pan-African organization said that it was shocking for people to believe that his being French-speaking influenced this decision.

According to observers in the Nigerian capital, Mr Kodjo's words, which were reported on Thursday by the official NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN), served as a reply to the information published on 23 June 1981 by the Nigerian president, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, at the recent OAU summit in Nairobi, Kenya.

According to the official Nigerian communique, the Nigerian head of state, by boycotting the summit, intended to show his unhappiness over the way in which the OAU General Secretariat handled the Nigeria-Cameroon issue.

I do not think that in performing my duties I should be unfair to Nigeria, the secretary general also told NAN.

Mr Edem Kodjo, who was returning to Yaounde after meeting President Shafari for the second time in the company of the Kenyan foreign minister, Dr Robert John Ouko, said he is optimistic that a peaceful solution will be found to the problem.

The OAU secretary general, mandated by the current chairman of the organization and Kenyan head of state, Daniel arap Moi, held first talks with President Shehu Shagari last Friday and later received Dr Ouko on Monday.

The Kenyan foreign minister, on his part, went to Yaounde on Tuesday at the request of the president then returned to Lagos the following day to have a second round of talks with the Nigerian head of state.

A statement issued at the end of the last talks between Mr Edem Kodjo, Dr Ouko and President Shagari stated especially that the OAU had decided, according to President Moi's two envoys, to set up a ministerial committee charged with studying the situation between Cameroon and Nigeria.

Questioned at the time of his departure, Mr Edem Kodjo, who was accompanied by the deputy OAU secretary general, Mr Peter Onu of Nigeria, replied: I am not aware of such a committee. For his part, Peter Onu added that he was surprised at this information.

ALGERIA

KING HASSAN REMARKS ON SAHARA REFERENDUM ATTACKED

PM161454 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7 Jul 81 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Playing With Words Without a Future"]

[Text] In yesterday's edition, our fellow national-language newspaper, ASH-SHA'B, devoted a commentary to the recent press conference given by King Hassan II to hand-picked journalists. It is this commentary that we publish hereunder.

After the African delegations had returned to their countries displaying legitimate optimism about the opening of a new page, just when all circles were agreed in thinking that a new era of peace could be established in the region and after the king of Morocco's pledge at Nairobi, thus acceding to the African consensus by accepting the organization of a supervised referendum in Western Sahara, press agencies have just noted the statements of the king of Morocco through which he reveals his true intentions concerning the application of the latest OAU decision, thus making the referendum devoid of any significance.

Our intention, ASH-SHA'B continues, is not to draw attention to this aspect of the king's press conference nor to his interpretation of the referendum, since the committee for implementing the referendum on self-determination set up by the Nairobi summit and invested with full powers can correct any false or mischievous interpretation of the "supervised referendum." Similarly, is it by no means our intention to reply to the anti-Algerian press campaigns conducted by the Moroccan information organs during and after the Nairobi summit, and thus we leave the Moroccan authorities the chance to return to more just positions and to embark on the path of wisdom. But the king's recent statements, unfortunately, have just fuelled this campaign and misrepresented Algeria's constant and well-known position in respect of the Saharan question, the referendum and self-determination. In fact, the king takes Algeria to task for its adherence to the need to bring together all the guarantees which allow the Saharan people to express themselves absolutely freely, far removed from any pressures or shackles upon freedom of expression, including the presence of foreign occupation forces.

On this particular point, the king wonders in his press conference: "How can Algeria say 'no' to the holding of a referendum in the presence of royal forces when it accepted a referendum in the presence of French occupation forces?" On this question ASH-SHA'B recalls three things:

1. The referendum on the self-determination and independence of Algeria came after direct negotiations and agreements between the French Government and the leadership of the Algerian Revolution and at the end of a long armed struggle waged by the Algerian people under the leadership of the FLN. The Saharan people are waging a similar struggle today under the leadership of the Polisario Front, whilst Morocco continues to refuse to begin direct negotiations with it.
2. The French occupation army which was in Algeria at the time recognized the colonial situation.
3. The referendun which was held in Algeria is totally different from that advocated by the king. The former was limited to a single question: "yes or no to independence?" But as for the king's "referendum," he aims to impose a plebiscite in order to set the the seal on a fait accompli.

Did the king think, newspaper ASH-SHA'B continues, that it was only by acceptance of a "supervised referendum" that he could calm Algerian anxieties, as well as those of African countries devoted to the cause of peace, and hence obtain a free hand to act as he wished in the region?

It is perhaps this disappointment which led him to attempt to misrepresent the Algerian position, blending it with a promise of a "port on the Atlantic" to be provided for Algeria, thus cheaply selling off the riches of the Saharan people after the fashion of the haggling with which we have become accustomed ever since it became a question of sharing out plundered territories with Ould Daddah.

The least one can say about these blackmail attempts is that they condemn their author even before striking anywhere near Algeria's reputation. This blackmail is also a reflection of posturing disdain vis-a-vis the people's causes and their dignity--causes which the Algerian revolution, as it has stated numerous times, refuses to submit to any blackmail. The Algerian revolution has nothing to do with this kind of behavior in international relations--behavior which reminds us of the obscure epochs of colonial invasions in the last century, when the colonial empires shared out among themselves the destiny of the peoples of Africa and allotted among themselves their zones of influence.

Once again, Algeria wishes to start discussion and has no other intention than to reassert respect for the principles for which our people sacrificed a tenth of their children. It has no other intention than to see relations between the Saharan and Moroccan peoples follow the path of peace, as was the case between the Saharan and Mauritanian peoples. In this context Algeria is ready to discharge all its responsibilities concerning the peoples of the region. As for those who imagine they can win the battle by playing with words, we would like to assure them that they will inevitably lose this battle as they have lost all the others. The truth will ultimately triumph.

LIBYA

STATEMENT VIEWS RELATIONS WITH FRANCE, CHAD

LD161726 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Statement issued by Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in Tripoli 16 July]

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jul (JANA)--The People's Bureau [for Foreign Liaison] has been acquainted with the statement made by the French Foreign Ministry regarding Libyan-French relations and the prospects of cooperation between the two countries. The bureau has noted with interest the positive points in that statement, particularly with regard to the French Government's affirmation that it will adhere to the implementation of the cooperation agreements between the two countries and its readiness to widen the prospects of such a cooperation. While welcoming the positive French attitude, the People's Bureau would like to reaffirm its readiness to strengthen and develop the relations between the two countries in various fields.

As for the question of Libyan-Chadian relations, the bureau would like to emphasize that this question concerns two countries between which there are agreements which regulate their bilateral relations in harmony with the spirit and letter of the OAU Charter. The Libyan Arab role in supporting Chad's security and stability was discussed and highly praised by the African states at the Nairobi summit. The resolutions which were made at this conference on the question of Chad are the concern of the Chadian Government and the OAU alone, and any third party which involves itself forcibly in this question is directly interferring in the affairs of a sovereign and independent state.

Consequently, the question of the presence of Libyan forces in Chad is an issue which concerns the Chadian Government alone and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is quite willing to withdraw its forces from Chad, but this matter is left entirely to the legitimate Chadian Government.

WESTERN SAHARA

ABDELAZIZ DEFINES CONDITIONS FOR REFERENDUM

LD170212 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Mohamed Abdelaziz, Polisario secretary general and chairman of the SDAR Revolution Command Council, at a meeting held in Hawza, in the liberated Saharan territory, on 12 July, defined the conditions for the referendum on self-determination to be held in accordance with the UN Charter and our continent's peoples' natural rights and legitimate ambitions to prosperity. The following are the nine conditions:

1. The holding of direct negotiations between the two parties in the conflict, the Polisario and the Moroccan Government, with a view to agreeing on practical steps to be taken to effect a cease-fire and insure the withdrawal of the occupation forces and the Moroccan administration in order to create favorable conditions which would enable the Western Saharan people to exercise their established right to self-determination through a just, free general referendum in accordance with the UN and OAU Charters.

2. Complete withdrawal of Moroccan forces from the entire Western Saharan territority.

3. Complete withdrawal of the Moroccan administration and presence in all forms.

4. Withdrawal of Moroccan forces to a distance of 150 km within Moroccan borders as they were internationally recognized at the time of independence.

5. Return of all the Saharan people to their towns and villages without any foreign pressure or presence.

6. Establishment of a provisional international administration of the United Nations and the OAU, in coordination with the SDAR national administration, to insure the establishment of security and the prevalence of the conditions necessary for the normal holding of a referendum for self-determination for the Western Saharan people.

7. The provisional international administration shall, in coordination with the SDAR national administration, work for the creation of a psychological and moral climate necessary for the elimination of the direct effects of annihilation, repression and oppression which was due to the expansionist war of the Moroccan Kingdom--a climate essential for any free choice--over a minimum period of 3 months.

8. The peacekeeping forces shall take up positions, in particular along the Moroccan-Saharan borders, until the completion of the Saharan people's self-determination operation.

9. All Saharan detainees--women, children or men--shall be released from Moroccan prisons and detention camps.

The Polisario affirms its full readiness to cooperate with the OAU committee entrusted with the task of holding the referendum and with the international provisional administration of the United Nations. It renews its call for direct negotiations with the Moroccan Government to determine the details and ways for completing the liquidation of imperialism in the Western Sahara. At the same time, the Polisario calls on African and international public opinion to be on the alert in the face of the maneuvers of the expansionist king to gain time and undermine the new dynamism by insisting on the need for the acceptance of impossible things: the imposition of self-determination under the conditions of occupation.

KENYA

BORDER MEETING WITH UGANDANS ENDS 15 JUL

EA161158 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] A joint Kenya-Uganda border meeting ended in Turkana yesterday with a call by the delegates to the people living along the border to desist from indulging in activities which could mar the good relations between the two countries.

The Turkana DC [district commissioner], Mr Isaac Lukalo, who headed the Kenyan team to the 2-day meeting, said that it was Kenya's aim that the people living along the common border live in peace. He said the governments of Kenya and Uganda have decided to work jointly to develop the areas along the border and urged the people to cooperate with the government officials who would be implementing the objectives.

The Ugandan team was led by the DC for Kotido, Mr Adima Amayo, who said such meetings were meant to strengthen the relations between the two countries. A similar meeting will be held in Uganda next month.

TANZANIA

INFORMATION MINISTER ANNOUNCES MASS MEDIA PLANS

EA162116 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Dar es Salaam--the government has announced a number of measures to strengthen mass media institutions to enable them to fully discharge their duty of informing the people about their progress and to inform them of what is happening inside and outside the country. The measures include providing the mass media institutions with essential equipment and training their personnel as far as the country's economy will allow.

This was announced by the minister of information and culture, Benjamin Mkapa, when presenting to parliament the estimates of expenditure for the ministry for the years 1981-82.

Mkapa said his ministry had begun identifying problems facing the TANZANIA NEWS AGENCY, SHIHATA, and that firm steps would be taken in the near future to consolidate the agency morally and materially. According to Mkapa, the agency is faced with debts amounting to about 5,200,000 shillings, the major part of which are debts for telephone and telex services. He said as a result of this, telephone and telex services have been withdrawn from many parts of the country thus reducing the effectiveness of the agency in collecting and transmitting news to newspapers and radio. The agency is also faced with a shortage of vehicles.

As for Radio Tanzania, the minister said: If one were to disregard transmitters in the regions which are new, the remainder are obsolete, having been in use for no less than 15 years. Although a solution to this problem is to purchase new transmitters, the state of the country's economy precludes this.

Mkapa explained that Radio Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, which this year will be completing 30 years of broadcasting to mainland Tanzania, intends to issue new program schedules to inform its listeners of programs to be transmitted. The schedules will also give details of charges on commercial announcements and ways of participating in the different programs. This will minimize listeners' problems in finding out in advance the programs to be transmitted.

GHANA

ACCRA REPORTS MURDER OF GHANAIANS IN NIGERIA

AB161928 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Reports from Nigeria have confirmed that five Ghanaians have been murdered in Ibadan. The victims are Kojo Rockson, Patrick Mensah, Panyin White, Kakra White and Kweku Badu--all from Saltpond.

According to Ghana's Ministry of Information and Tourism, one of the Ghanaians had gone out to fetch water when he was chased by a group of armed Nigerian civilian guards to a house where the other Ghanaians were living. The guards then arrested the Ghanaians on the pretext of taking them to the police station, while in fact, they meant to kill them.

According to the statement, four of the culprits are reported to be in police custody while the fifth, who was the ring leader, committed suicide shortly after the murder. The sixth offender is still at large.

Police efforts are being intensified to bring the culprits to book. The statement quotes the Ghana mission in Lagos as saying that the official Nigerian reaction is one of shock and dismay. The Ghana Government has taken up the matter with the Nigerian authorities for it to be dealt with in the appropriate manner.

GUINEA-BISSAU

PRESIDENT, MINISTER URGE NATIONALS TO RETURN

AB161320 Paris AFP in French 1057 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Bissau, 16 Jul (AFP)--The president of the Revolutionary Council in Guinea-Bissau, Joao Bernardo Vieira, has called on Guineans abroad to return to the country.

He made the appeal when receiving representatives of the committee of support to the Revolutionary Council established in Senegal. This committee is the first organization of its kind to be set up abroad by Guinea-Bissau nationals.

In addition, the minister of foreign affairs, Victor Suade Maria, has recommended to ambassadors appointed since the 14 November coup, which overthrew the regime of President Louis Cabral, that they open a constructive dialogue with Guinea-Bissau nationals who have settled abroad. Saude Maria received Guinea-Bissau's ambassadors to Senegal, Portugal, the United States, Cuba, the Soviet Union, Guinea, Algeria and Gambia.

NIGERIA

RESIGNATIONS OF FOUR NPP MINISTERS ACCEPTED 16 JUL

AB161608 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] President Shehu Shagari today accepted the resignation of four ministers sponsored into the government by the Nigerian People's Party [NPP]. The ministers are S.K. Mafuyai, minister of civil aviation; Dr T. Michaulum, minister of state for health, Chief J.A. Akinrinade, minister of state for internal affairs and Mr Emmanuel Aguma, minister of state for agriculture. The ministers' resignation letters reached the president today.

In another development, the president has appointed Alhaji I.A. Danmusa as the new minister of civil aviation (?with cabinet rank). Until his appointment Alhaji Danmusa was the minister of state in the Ministry of Finance.

Earlier the NPP had directed all its ministers in the federal cabinet to give notice of resignation from the Federal Government with effect from today. A statement signed by the national chairman of the party, Chief Adenoye Oguntonye, also advised those of them who are away to do so as soon as they returned home.

The statement explained that this action had become necessary because of the action of the National Party of Nigeria (?in waiving) the 6-month notice needed to terminate the accord.

NEW KADUNA STATE DEPUTY GOVERNOR APPOINTED

AB161933 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Excerpts] A new deputy governor has been appointed for Kaduna State. He is Alhaji Maazu Aliyu Ahmed who, until his new appointment, was the chairman of the state integrated Rural Development Authority, zone three, Maigana, in Zaria local government area.

Alhaji Maazu's appointment was today approved by the State House of Assembly. The new deputy governor is to be sworn in at a date to be announced later.

DAILY SKETCH CRITICIZES POLICE PERFORMANCE

AB161146 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY SKETCH expresses concern over the manner the police goes about its duties, alleging that it is being teleguided [directed from outside Kaduna and Kano States] by some politicians. Recalling recent happenings in Kaduna and Kano States for the basis of its argument, the SKETCH accuses the police of a double standard and says it has failed to prevent the destruction of life and property. The paper, however, advises the police to desist from allowing itself to be used as an agent of oppression and victimization of political opponents.

SIERRA LEONE

STEVENS ADDRESSES MILITARY OFFICERS 16 JUL

AB170828 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0655 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Excerpt] Eighteen commissioned and specialist officers of the Republic of Sierra Leone military forces have taken their oaths of allegiance to the president, Dr Siaka Stevens. At a ceremony at State House yesterday, President Stevens told the officers that the oath of allegiance underlined a contract with the Sierra Leone Government and the nation that his government was committed to provide them with their professional necessities while they should help to defend the country from internal and external menaces.

President Stevens reminded the officers that the government has been doing its best within its financial capabilities to provide them with modern accomodations as demonstrated in Tepar, Munge and other areas. As officers, he said, they had now entered a new phase of soldiering which demanded a responsibility not only to themselves but also to the nation. You cannot force people to respect you if your behavior is incompatible with the prestige which your rank carries, the president added. President Stevens expressed the hope that the officers will always be on the alert and will not fail the nation.

ANGOLA

PRESIDENT CONDEMNS 'PRETORIA TERRORIST GANGS'

EA161516 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Luanda--The continuous acts of aggression by the Pretoria terrorist gangs against the Angolan people were yesterday referred to by Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola [PRA], during his opening speech at the third session of the People's Assembly of his country.

The Angolan leader condemned the support that the Western countries and the Reagan administration are giving to the apartheid regime and reaffirmed the unconditional support of the PRA for the Namibian liberation struggle waged by SWAPO.

LESOTHO

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES CABINET CHANGES 17 JUL

LD171150 Johannesburg International Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] The Lesotho Government has dropped three ministers in a cabinet reshuffle announced today. They are the minister of the prime minister, Chief Patrick Mota; the minister of works, energy and mining, Mr Charles Mofeli; and the minister of rural development and cooperatives, Mr Jobo Rampeta. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr C.D. Molapo, is now minister for information and broadcasting, and Mr Mooki Molapo takes over the foreign affairs portfolio.

SOUTH AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE RESISTANCE MEMBER INTERVIEWED IN LISBON

CA161050 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] The Mozambique National Resistance Movement's representative in Europe, Dr (Evo Fernandes), says there is tacit agreement with the authorities of Zimbabwe that Zimbabwe will not interfere in the movement's struggle against the government of President Machel. In an interview with the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation in Lisbon, he said there were now 2,000 Zimbabwean soldiers stationed on the banks of the Limpopo River, but in accordance with the tacit agreement the resistance movement was not conducting operations against them. He said it was because of a policy of live and let live between the resistance movement and the Government of Zimbabwe that Zimbabwean goods were still reaching the port of Beira and that no Zimbabwean reconnaissance aircraft had been shot down in spite of their frequent reconnaissance flights into Mozambique.

Dr (Fernandes) said that at the meeting between President Machel and Mr Magabe at Umtali earlier this week, President Machel tried to exert pressure on Zimbabwe to become more involved in the struggle against the Mozambique Resistance Movement. (?However), he said, Mr Mugabe had so far been prudent and the resistance movement hoped he would not change his attitude. Dr (Fernandes) said the railway, road and pipeline between Mozambique and Zimbabwe were easy targets for the resistance movement, which would not hesitate to attack them if the situation changed. He rejected allegations that South Africa supported his movement, which he said was a truly national movement that neither asked for nor needed foreign help. Dr (Fernandes) said the movement will continue to prevent power from Caborra Bassa reaching South Africa.

JOHANNESBURG COMMENTS ON ANTI-SWAPO OPERATIONS

LD161734 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The latest action by the security forces in the north of South-West Africa/Namibia against the military arm of SWAPO, PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia], is aimed at securing a political solution free from intimidation by terrorists. During intensive counterinsurgency operations in the past 12 days, 130 terrorists have been killed. SWAPO losses so far this year total 700. The chief of the Defense Force, General Viljoen, considers that the successes by the security forces have resulted in the weakening of the action of PLAN's terrorists.

Since attacks such as those on SWAPO bases--"Moscow," "Vietnam" and others--the quality of SWAPO action has deteriorated.

With America's settlement initiative for South-West Africa, Namibia gaining momentum, a renewed military effort by SWAPO was to be expected. It came last week. Following the established practice of demonstrating an illusory military presence, over 500 PLAN terrorists crossed the Angolan border into South-West Africa/Namibia. Most of those who have not been killed are fleeing back and so have helped precipitate an altogether new stage in the war, one in which the declared aim of the territory's military authorities now is the total destruction of SWAPO's military strength. The security forces have been pursuing the fleeing terrorists right up to their bases and have wiped them out.

There is a growing belief that a negotiated independence settlement for South-West Africa/Namibia can be achieved only after the destruction of SWAPO's military machine, to force it to take part in the process on the same footing as the other parties.